

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A method for managing metadata of audio or video content files, the method comprising:

storing a plurality of metadata for a plurality of metadata fields of a plurality of metadata records for a plurality of corresponding audio or video content files, the metadata records being variable in length having variable number of metadata fields;

associating a first subset of the metadata fields with a first display component set;
associating a second subset of the metadata fields with a second display component set;
associating a third subset of the metadata fields with a third display component set;

associating a fourth subset of the metadata fields with a first category property set for a first genre of the audio or video content files, the fourth subset including the first and second subsets;

associating a fifth subset of the metadata fields with a second category property set for a second genre of the audio or video content files, the fifth subset including the first and third subsets;

rendering a first display comprising a first plurality of metadata of a first metadata record corresponding to a first audio or video content file of the first genre based at least in part on the fourth subset of metadata fields associated with the first category property set, and in accordance with a first display layout comprising the first and second display component sets; and

rendering a second display comprising a second plurality of metadata of a second metadata record corresponding to a second audio or video content file of the second genre based at least in part on the fifth subset of metadata fields associated with the second category property set, and in accordance with a second display component layout comprising the first and third display component sets.

2-8. (Canceled)

9. (Withdrawn) A method for managing metadata of audio or video content files, the method comprising:

associating a set of metadata fields with a category property set for a genre of audio or video content files having corresponding metadata records, each of the corresponding metadata records having a plurality of metadata fields including the set of the metadata fields to be associated with the category property set;

receiving a new value for a first of the set of metadata fields of a first of the metadata records corresponding to a first of the audio or video content files of the genre; and

assigning the new value to the first metadata field of the first metadata record as well as the first metadata field of each other metadata record corresponding to the other audio or video content files of the genre.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Withdrawn) A method for managing metadata of audio or video content files, the method comprising:

receiving a new value for a metadata field of a metadata record corresponding to an audio or video content file of a genre of audio or video content files; and

assigning the new value to the metadata field of the metadata record corresponding to the audio or video content file, as well as each corresponding metadata field of each other metadata record corresponding to the other audio or video content files of the genre.

12-16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) A metadata editor system for organizing and allowing access to metadata of audio or video content files, the metadata editor system comprising:

a metadata database configured to store metadata fields, metadata of metadata records having the metadata fields, display component sets having selected metadata fields, category property sets having selected metadata fields and associated with corresponding genres of audio or video content files; and

a graphical user interface display module configured to selectively display metadata of metadata records of audio or video content files of various genres, using display layouts comprising selected combinations of the display component

sets, and to selectively assign metadata values to metadata fields of metadata records corresponding to audio or video content files of a genre, based on metadata values

provided for metafields of individual metadata records corresponding to audio or video content files of the genre.

18-37. (Canceled)

38-42. (Canceled)

43. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method further comprises receiving at least one indication to perform one or more of said associating.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 43, wherein said receiving comprises receiving one or more of the at least one indication from a user.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method further comprises at least one of

- adding one of either said first, said second, said third, said fourth, or said fifth subset of metadata fields to a plurality of existing metadata fields; adding either said first, said second or said third display component set to a plurality of existing display component sets; and

- adding either said first or said second category property set to a plurality of existing category property sets.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 45, wherein the method further comprises receiving at least one indication to perform at least one of said adding.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 46, wherein said receiving comprises receiving one or more of the at least one indication from a user.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises

- receiving a new value for one of the rendered first and second subsets of metafields of the first metadata record corresponding to the first audio or video content file of the first genre; and

- assigning the new value to the corresponding metadata field of the first metadata record corresponding to the first audio or video content file of the first genre.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 48, wherein the receiving of a new value comprises receiving the new value from a user.
50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 48, wherein the method further comprises assigning the new value to the corresponding metadata field of each other metadata record of the other audio or video content files of the first genre.
51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, wherein the method further comprises receiving an indication to perform the assigning to the corresponding metadata field of each other metadata record of the other audio or video content files of the first genre.
52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 51, wherein the receiving of an indication comprises receiving the indication from a user.
53. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9, wherein the method further comprises receiving at least one of
- an indication to perform said associating, the new value, and
 - an indication to perform said assigning to the corresponding metadata field of each other metadata record of the audio or video content files of the genre.
54. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 53, wherein said receiving comprises receiving one or more of the at least one from a user.
55. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9, wherein the method further comprises at least one of
- adding one or more of the subset of metadata fields to a plurality of existing metadata fields; and
 - adding the category property set to a plurality of existing category property sets.
56. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 55, wherein the method further comprises receiving at least one indication to perform at least one of said adding.
57. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 56, wherein said receiving comprises receiving one or more of the at least one indication from a user.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, wherein the method further comprises
receiving at least one of the new value, and
an indication to perform said assigning to the corresponding metadata field of each
other metadata record corresponding the other audio or video content files of the genre.
59. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58, wherein said receiving comprises receiving one or
more of the at least one from a user.
60. (Withdrawn) The metadata editor system of Claim 17, wherein the display component
sets comprise a display component set used to display both metadata records corresponding
to audio as well as video content files.
61. (Withdrawn) The metadata editor system of Claim 17, wherein the graphical user
interface is further adapted to facilitate at least one of
adding a metadata field to a plurality of existing metadata fields;
adding a display component set to a plurality of existing display component sets;
adding a category property set to a plurality of existing category property sets; and
assigning a received value for a metadata field of the metadata field record
corresponding to an audio or video content file of a genre to the corresponding metadata
field of each other metadata record of the audio or video content files of the genre.
62. (Withdrawn) The metadata editor system of Claim 61, wherein the graphical user
interface is further adapted to facilitate receiving from a user, at least one indication to
perform at least one of said adding and assigning.
- 63-78. (Cancelled)
79. (Previously Presented) A method for managing metadata of content files using an
electronic device, the method comprising:
obtaining from a persistent metadata database, metadata for the content files;
displaying on a display of the electronic device, a first column having a plurality of
rows for track names corresponding to a plurality of content files; and
displaying on a display of the electronic device, at least one of:

a second column having a plurality of rows for artist names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names,
a third column having a plurality of rows for album names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names, and
a fourth column having a plurality of rows for genre names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database is a relational database.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database is a semi-relational database.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database is an object-oriented database.

83. (Not Entered).

84. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database is a tabular database.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database is queryable.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said persistent database persists separately from the content files.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein at least one column of said track names, artist names, album names, and genre names has a blank entry.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 87 wherein said blank entry is saved as a named entry.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79 wherein said track names correspond to a content file associated with at least one of a genre, artist and album.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, further comprising receiving an indication of a selection of a genre of content files, and displaying of a column having a plurality of rows for track names corresponding to the plurality of content files of a genre in response to receiving the indication, the plurality of content files being content files of the selected genre.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the method comprises receiving a new metadata value for a metafield of a metadata record corresponding to a displayed track name, and in response to receiving the new metadata value, propagating the new metadata value to the corresponding metafield of each corresponding metadata record for the content files of the selected genre.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the method further comprises receiving a selection of one of the displayed track names, and in response to receiving the selection, rendering the content of the content file corresponding to the selected displayed track name.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the displaying of said second column of a plurality of rows for artist names or said third column of a plurality of rows for album names, is simultaneous with the display of said first column having a plurality of rows for track names corresponding to a plurality of content files of a genre.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising storing said persistent database on a computer readable medium.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising obtaining an indication from an input device to change at least one metadata value in said persistent database and automatically storing said indicated change in said persistent database.

96. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing computer executable instructions for performing the method of any of Claims 79-82 and 84-95.

97. (Previously Presented) An apparatus having a processor and a memory containing computer-executable instructions for performing the method of any of Claims 79, 95, 79-82, and 84-95 when executed by said processor.

98. (Previously Presented) A method for managing metadata of content files using an electronic device, the method comprising: obtaining from a persistent database, metadata for content files; displaying on a display of the electronic device, a first column having a plurality of track names corresponding to a plurality of content files; displaying on a display of the electronic device, at least one of:

- a second column having a plurality of artist names corresponding to said track names,
- a third column having a plurality of album names corresponding to said track names, and
- a fourth column having a plurality of genre names corresponding to said track names; and

modifying at least one of a track name, artist name, genre and album name as metadata of a content file in said persistent database.

99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 98, wherein the method comprises receiving a new metadata value for a metafield of a metadata record corresponding to a displayed track name, and in response to receiving the new metadata value, propagating the new metadata value to the corresponding metafield of each corresponding metadata record for the content files of the selected genre.

100. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing computer executable instructions for performing the method of any of Claims 98-99.

101. (Previously Presented) An apparatus having a processor and a memory containing computer-executable instructions for performing the method of any of Claims 98-99 when executed by said processor.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 98, further comprising obtaining an indication from an input device to change at least one metadata value in said persistent database and automatically storing said indicated change in said persistent database.